

the cost of a new facility to current design standards of comparable capacity and character to the destroyed facility. With respect to a bridge, a comparable facility is one which meets current geometric and construction standards for the type and volume of traffic it will carry during its design life.

(e) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b)(6) of this section, the total cost of a project eligible for ER funding may not exceed the cost of repair or reconstruction of a comparable facility. ER funds may participate to the extent of eligible repair costs when proposed projects contain unjustified betterments or other work not eligible for ER funds.

[52 FR 21948, June 10, 1987, as amended at 61 FR 67212, Dec. 20, 1996]

§ 668.111 Application procedures.

(a) *Notification.* As soon as possible after the disaster, the applicant shall notify the FHWA Division Administrator of its intent to apply for ER funds.

(b) *Field report.* As soon as practical after the occurrence, the State will promptly make a preliminary field survey, working cooperatively with the FHWA Division Administrator and other governmental agencies with jurisdiction over eligible highways. The preliminary field survey should be coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency work, if applicable, to eliminate duplication of effort. The purpose of this survey is to determine the general nature and extent of damage to eligible highways for preparation of a field report by the FHWA Division Administrator.

(1) The purpose of the field report is to provide a factual basis for the Federal Highway Administrator's finding that serious damage to Federal-aid highways has been caused by a natural disaster over a wide area or a catastrophe. The report should include by political subdivision or other generally recognized administrative or geographic boundaries, a description of the types and extent of damage to highways and a preliminary estimate of cost of restoration or reconstruction for Federal-aid systems in each jurisdiction. To the extent available, similar information on other roads should

be included. A description of the nature and characteristics of the natural disaster or catastrophe, and dates of occurrence (incident period), should be coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and included in the report. When the President has declared "a major disaster," detailed information on the extraordinary natural disturbance is not required; however, the seriousness of the road damage must be documented. Pictures showing the kinds and extent of damage and sketch maps detailing the damage areas should be included in the field report.

(2) Unless very unusual circumstances prevail, the field report should be prepared within 6 weeks following the applicant's notification.

(c) *Application.* Before funds can be made available, an application for ER must be made to, and approved by the FHWA Administrator. The application shall be submitted to the FHWA Division Administrator, who will forward it through channels to FHWA Headquarters. The application shall include:

(1) A copy of the Governor's proclamation, request for a Presidential declaration, or a Presidential declaration; and

(2) A copy of the field report.

(d) *Approval of application.* The Federal Highway Administrator's approval of the application constitutes the finding of eligibility under 23 U.S.C. 125 and shall constitute approval of the application.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2125-0525)

[52 FR 21948, June 10, 1987, as amended at 61 FR 67212, Dec. 20, 1996]

§ 668.113 Program and project procedures.

(a) Immediately after approval of an application, the FHWA Division Administrator will notify the applicant to proceed with preparation of a program which defines the work needed to restore or replace the damaged facilities. It should be submitted to the FHWA Division Administrator within 3 months of receipt of this notification. The FHWA field office will assist the applicant and other affected agencies in preparation of the program. This work may involve joint site inspections